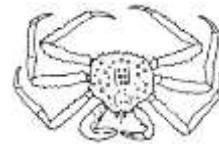

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Douglas Area Office
802 3rd Street
Douglas, Alaska 99824
Date: October 16, 2012
Time: 12:15 p.m.

COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB ANNOUNCEMENT ICY STRAIT AND NORTH STEPHENS PASSAGE AREA CLOSURE DATE

Douglas . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) announced today that the commercial golden king crab fishery in the Icy Strait and North Stephens Passage Areas will close at 12:00 noon, **Sunday, October 28, 2012.**

Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, harvest as of the closure date, is expected to reach the 45,000-pound guideline harvest level for the Icy Strait Area. There is currently no fishing effort in the North Stephens Passage Area. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they cease fishing. This action will bring the 2011/2012 golden king crab fishery in Registration Area A to a close.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition with all bait and bait containers removed and doors secured open for five days after the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the Icy Strait and North Stephens Passage Areas no later than 12:00 noon, Friday, November 2, 2012.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C2812.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3255

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